

In the Claims

1 1. [Currently Amended] A method comprising:
2 first determining, by a processor within a peripheral device, that an amount of
3 a consumable associated with the peripheral device has decreased below a
4 predetermined threshold; ~~and~~
5 first transmitting an email from the peripheral device to order additional
6 supplies of the consumable; and
7 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine, and
8 further comprising:
9 second determining, by the processor within the hard copy output engine,
10 when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
11 second transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to the
12 second determining.

1 2. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 3. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a personal computer associated
3 with the peripheral device, and further comprising transmitting a second email from
4 the personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 4. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~peripheral~~
2 ~~device comprises a hard copy output engine and~~ first determining comprises
3 determining when a toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased below
4 a toner low threshold.

1 5. Cancel.

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~~1 6. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral~~
~~2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an~~
~~3 embedded web server, and further comprising wherein the second determining~~
~~4 comprises determining using the embedded web server;~~
~~5 determining, by the web server, when a predetermined work threshold has~~
~~6 been reached; and~~
~~7 transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to determining.~~

1 7. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an
3 embedded web server, wherein the first determining comprises determining when a
4 toner level in a hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold
5 and wherein the first transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a vendor web
6 site across a firewall.

1 8. [Currently Amended] An article of manufacture comprising a computer
2 usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein that is configured
3 to cause a processor contained in a peripheral device to:
4 first determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the
5 peripheral device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; ~~and~~
6 first transmit ~~[[an]]~~ a first email from the peripheral device to order additional
7 supplies of the consumable;
8 second determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached;
9 and
10 second transmit a second email to request periodic service in response to
11 reaching the predetermined work threshold.

1 9. [Currently Amended] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the
3 peripheral device to first transmit the first email comprises computer readable code
4 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the
5 first email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

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1 10. [Currently Amended] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the
3 peripheral device to first transmit comprises computer readable code configured to
4 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the first email to a
5 personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the
6 personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 11. [Currently Amended] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the
3 computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the
4 peripheral device to first determine comprises computer readable code configured to
5 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to determine when a toner
6 level in the hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1 12. [Currently Amended] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine, ~~and wherein the~~
3 ~~computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the~~
4 ~~peripheral device to determine comprises computer readable code configured to~~
5 ~~cause the processor contained in the hard copy output engine to determine when a~~
6 ~~predetermined work threshold has been reached and the computer readable code~~
7 ~~configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit~~
8 ~~comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in~~
9 ~~the hard copy output engine to transmit an email to request periodic service in~~
10 ~~response to reaching the predetermined work threshold.~~

1 13. [Currently Amended] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor
3 comprises an embedded web server and further comprising computer readable code
4 configured to cause the embedded web server to~~to~~ perform the second
5 determination and the second transmission
6 ~~determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and~~
7 ~~transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the~~
8 ~~predetermined work threshold.~~

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1 14. [Currently Amended] The article of manufacture of claim 8 wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor
3 comprises an embedded web server and wherein the computer readable code
4 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to first
5 determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the embedded
6 web server to determine when a toner level in a hard copy output engine has
7 decreased below a toner low threshold and wherein the computer readable code
8 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to first transmit
9 comprises computer readable code configured to cause the embedded web server to
10 transmit the first email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 15. [Currently Amended] A computer implemented control system for a
2 hard copy output engine, the system comprising:
3 memory configured to store a software module; and
4 processing circuitry configured to employ the software module to:
5 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with a
6 peripheral device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and
7 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional
8 supplies of the consumable; and
9 wherein the processing circuitry is configured to transmit the email to
10 a personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from
11 the personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 16. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module
3 to:
4 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral
5 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and
6 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the
7 consumable.

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1 17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the
3 processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web server, and
4 the embedded web server is further configured to:

5 determine when a toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased
6 below a toner low threshold; and

7 transmit an email across a firewall to a vendor web site to order additional
8 toner in response to determining.

1 18. [Currently Amended] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 15, wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and
3 wherein the processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web
4 server, and the embedded web server is ~~further configured to transmit the email to a~~
5 ~~personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the~~
6 ~~personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall~~ configured to perform the
7 determination and the transmission.

1 19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile
3 machines, photocopiers and printers and wherein the processing circuitry and
4 memory together comprise an embedded web server.

1 20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module
3 to:

4 determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and

5 transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the
6 predetermined work threshold.

1 Cancel claims 21-27.

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1 28. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email ~~is communicated~~ directly from the
3 peripheral device to a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 29. [Currently Amended] The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the second
2 transmitting the email comprises transmitting the email directly from the peripheral
3 device to a provider that performs the periodic service.

1 30. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 7, wherein the vendor
2 web site comprises a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 31. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting responsive to the first determining.

1 32. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 31, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email ~~is communicated~~ directly from the
3 peripheral device to a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 33. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting is initiated using the processor within the peripheral device.

1 34. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 15, wherein the processing circuitry is configured to transmit the email
3 responsive to the determination.

1 35. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 34, wherein the processing circuitry is configured to initiate direct
3 communication of the email to a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 36. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the second determining
2 comprises determining when the predetermined work threshold comprising a
3 predetermined number of sheets printed by the hard copy output engine has been
4 reached.

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1 37. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the second determining
2 comprises determining when the predetermined work threshold comprising a
3 predetermined length of time has been reached.

1 38. [New] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the second
2 determining comprises determining when the predetermined work threshold
3 comprising a predetermined number of sheets printed by the peripheral device has
4 been reached.

1 39. [New] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the second
2 determining comprises determining when the predetermined work threshold
3 comprising a predetermined length of time has been reached.

1 40. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device and the personal computer are within a side of the
3 firewall opposite to a side of the vendor.

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